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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 29, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 24 totaled an estimated 16.6 billion ton-miles, 0.8 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today. The 1981 week included the fourth week of the coal miners' strike.

Cumulative volume for the first 17 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 273.2 billion ton-miles, 9.9 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carlcadings in the week ended April 24 totaled 385,002 cars, 0.1 percent above 1981 and 2.4 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 21.0 percent in the East due to the 1981 strike, but were down 2.1 percent in the South and 9.8 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 16 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, grain loadings were up 2,324 cars, or 9.8 percent. Thirteen of the 21 groups increased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended April 17, totaled 33,199 cars, up 7.0 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 61,632 trailers and/or containers, 7.6 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first sixteen weeks of the year was 550,343 cars, 7.7 percent higher than last year, and 974,207 trailers and/or containers, up 5.1 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 4/24/82:

	Loadings in Week ended April 24, 1982		Change from Corresponding Week 1981			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	25,964	I	2,324	9.8	I	1,553	6.4
Other farm products	4,449	I	901	25.4	I	1,319	42.1
Metallic ores	20,424	D	12,391	37.8	I	153	0.8
Coal	117,646	I	56,941	93.8	D	2,864	2.4
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,942	D	4,938	33.2	I	784	8.6
Nonmetallic minerals	10,852	D	4,118	27.5	D	193	1.7
Grain mill products	12,079	D	1,644	12.0	I	1,170	10.7
Food and kindred products	13,695	D	1,815	11.7	I	956	7.5
Primary forest products	15,025	D	4,988	24.9	D	1,081	6.7
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,496	D	2,891	30.8	I	586	9.9
Pulp, paper and allied products	16,956	D	3,277	16.2	I	674	4.1
Chemicals and allied products	23,264	D	4,940	17.5	D	118	0.5
Petroleum products	4,779	D	1	0.0	D	122	2.5
Stone, clay and glass products	10,024	D	4,884	32.8	D	101	1.0
Coke	5,177	D	1,028	16.6	D	14	0.3
Metals and products	11,066	D	7,025	38.8	I	614	5.9
Motor vehicles and equipment	17,294	D	1,591	8.4	I	2,307	15.4
Waste and scrap materials	8,876	D	4,225	32.2	D	37	0.4
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	8,774	D	688	7.3	I	586	7.2
All other carloads	41,959	I	713	1.7	I	2,836	7.2
LCL traffic	261	I	70	36.6	I	82	45.8
Total Cars Loaded	385,002	I	505	0.1	I	9,090	2.4
Corresponding week of 1981	384,497						

	1982	1981	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (17 weeks)	6,328,938	7,144,051	D 11.4
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
16 Weeks cumulative	256.6	286.3	D 10.4
Week ended April 24	16.6	16.7	D 0.8
17 Weeks cumulative	273.2	303.1	D 9.9

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